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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Taketomi Asami et al. Art Unit : 2815
Serial No. : 10/792,132 Examiner : Joseph H Nguyen
Filed : March 4, 2004
Title : SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE
SAME

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO ACTION OF JANUARY 14, 2005

Claims 34-67 are pending in this application, with claims 34-37 and 50-55 being independent.

Claims 34-67 have been rejected as being anticipated by Yamazaki (U.S. Patent No. 6,787,807). Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection because Yamazaki does not qualify as prior art. In particular, Yamazaki was filed on June 19, 2001. By contrast, the present application is a divisional of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/918,547, filed August 1, 2001 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,703,265), which claims priority from Japanese application number 2000-234913, which was filed on August 2, 2000 ("the Japanese priority application"). The Japanese priority application establishes a date of invention prior to June 19, 2001, such that Yamazaki does not qualify as prior art under section 102(e).

A translation of the Japanese priority application is being prepared and will be submitted once it becomes available, along with an explanation of where the claimed subject matter finds support in the Japanese priority application. Applicant asks that further action in this matter be held in abeyance until the translation is prepared and submitted.

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Attorney's Docket No.: 12732-061002 / US5111D1

Enclosed is a \$1020.00 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7/12/05



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